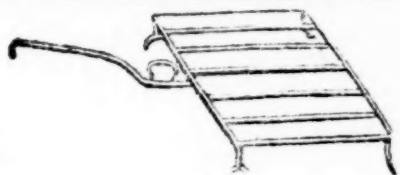


COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 1830.

[Price 7d.]



TO THE READERS OF THE REGISTER.

*On the present state of the Concern
of the Boroughmongers and Loan
Jobbers.*

Lewisham, Kent, Tuesday, 12th Oct., 1830.

MY FRIENDS,

Now, now, NOW we have the false, the foul, the hypocritical, the crafty, the fraudulent, the cruel, the rapacious, the ferocious, the BLOODY vagabonds upon the hip! When the murderer, or the usurer (which last St. Ambrose says is, if there be any difference, the worst of the two), has, in consequence of selling his soul to the devil for a term of years, after long revelling in innocent blood and in the fruit of the toil of the needy; when after being for half a lifetime, in the habit of seeing victim after victim fall defenceless before his extortions, his frauds, his perjuries, his plunderings, or his less cruel bayonet or knife; when, at the end of a long series of acts, every one of which has merited the gibbet in this world and hell in the next; when, at the end of, perhaps, forty or fifty years of a career so infernal, and when long impunity and success have made him totally forget the bargain, in virtue of which he has thus succeeded; when, just at the moment when he is contemplating new and still bolder acts of plunder; just when he is marking out for destruction a fresh group of helpless victims; when the monster, just in that moment of joyous anticipation, is, all of a sudden, tapped upon the shoulder by the Father of Lies, and reminded that the lease is expired his knees knock together, the teeth chatter in his head, the blood rushes from his cheeks to his caitiff-heart, and that caitiff-heart sinks, and beats no

more. Not far from resembling this state is that of our mortal enemies, the boroughmongers and loan-mongers, at this moment. *Despair* has seized on their caitiff-hearts; and in that state we will, for the present, leave them, while we take a look at what the ministerial papers are saying with regard to the intentions of our Government in this important crisis.

And first of all, let us do a little justice to ourselves; for I never, when am putting forward my claim to public merit, separate myself from YOU, who, through good report and evil report, have, at the expense of so many sacrifices, adhered to and sustained me. To be sure my efforts, my labours, my perseverance, have been wonderful, and far beyond all parallel, as far, at least as my observations have gone; but all things considered, your fidelity to me, the risks you have run, the injuries you have patiently endured, on my account, the sacrifices you have made for me, without any, even the most distant hope of compensation, and, in most instances, without the smallest expectation of ever seeing me, are not less wonderful nor less beyond all parallel. It is you who have sustained me; it is you who have enabled me to do what I have done; not by your paying for my writings; but by the hope which your conduct has constantly kept alive in my bosom, that those writings would finally be crowned with success.

Let us, then, do, on this occasion, a little justice to ourselves; let us remind our malignant calumniators, that, in 1814 (to go no further back), I told CASTLEREAGH, that the triumphs on the Serpentine River, and that the rejoicing at the Waterloo victory, would be of short duration; that the time was not distant when the people of Europe would have their turn; for that we had the reckoning to pay; and that, as we could not pay that, a new score was impossible; and yet, without a new score, it would be impossible to prevent the French from recovering their freedom, and that whenever they did that,

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we should have *a reform of the Parliament*. In 1816, I told the borough-mongers that we, *the people*, had a friend in *THE DEBT*, that would finally be too strong for them all; that she was ever watchful, quite invulnerable; faithful as the saints themselves; that she was as stanch as she was strong; that she laughed at standing armies and yeomanry cavalry; that she was to be attacked only by sap and mine; and that, if blown up, down *would come the whole fabric of corruption along with her*. In 1818, I bade the borough-mongers beware; for that if they did not give way in time, *concession would come too late*; that the interest of the Debt would finally strip them of the means of upholding their corruptions; and that when that hour should arrive, concession would be a word without a meaning. How many times, good God! have I predicted precisely that state of things which we now have before our eyes! In what year; in what month; nay, in what week, for sixteen years last past, have I not said: "Our wars (God be praised!) *against liberty* are at an end. The long and bloody war against the French people was to *prevent parliamentary reform in England*; and it *did* prevent it for the time; but to carry on that war, it was necessary to hire foreign armies, to make a vast expenditure; and to do these things, it was necessary to borrow immense sums of money; the triumphs were *purchased*; the victories were *bought*; they are not paid for; and it is *this Debt* which will prevent any further attempt to crush liberty abroad; while the taxes entailed on us by the war will finally so press on the middle class as to force them to join the working class in a demand of *parliamentary reform*; and thus will a reform, a real and radical reform, come *out of the very means* that were employed to stifle it for ever."

How often, my friends; in how many scores of Registers have you read this, and almost in these very words! But, in 1822, just after I had been at a county meeting at Maidstone, and had been most gloriously abused in the House of Commons (as it is called) for

having there proposed and *carried* a motion for "a *just* reduction of the *interest of the Debt*," I addressed a letter to the men of Kent, in which I said, "The *figure of eight* and the *eight noughts* (800,000,000) say to the King of England, **YOU SHALL NEVER GO TO WAR AGAIN WHILE WE ARE IN EXISTENCE.**" That is, that the *DEBT* which was contracted for the purpose of crushing freedom in France, has disabled you for war for ever, as long as the interest of it is paid, for, besides the weight of it, you have an army to pay to cause it to be collected; and I had, at the meeting, told the lords and squires how unreasonable it was to call on the Government to *reduce the establishments*, while there were thirty millions a year to be collected on *account of the Debt*. This assertion about the figure of *eight and the eight noughts*, made a paragraph in almost all the newspapers; it was a thing for their readers to *laugh at*; a little *joke* at my expense; a nice piece of fun, and generally the text to some new calumny against me. I have always trusted to TIME, and to the continuation of the goodness of God in giving me health as a tenfold reward for my sobriety and abstemiousness. And how do these *witty* beasts look NOW! On which side of those mouths from which issues their stinking breath, coming from their foul stomachs and through their rotten teeth, do they LAUGH now! *Can* they go to war *now*? The very question is farcical; but we must sober our heads a little, and treat the matter as seriously as we can; for it is a matter of very great importance; it is a matter worthy of the mind of a *real statesman*; and not such fellows as have been called statesmen in our country; not such fellows as LIVERPOOL, CANNING, and HUSKISSON; and, by the by, this will put you, my readers, in mind of an article in my Register, dated from Bollitree Castle, in Herefordshire, in the year 1823; in which article (a letter addressed to Canning), after relating that he, I, Huskisson, and Liverpool, dined together once, in 1800, I said: "You three have pursued the *flowery path*, I the *path of thorns*; you have

"arrived at great riches, power, and
 "what are called honours: I have led
 "a life of poverty, embarrassment, and
 "have, all the while, been covered with
 "obloquy by you and your base hire-
 "lings: yet *I would not change places*
 "*with the best of you now*; and mark
 "me, Canning, OUR DESTINY HAS
 "NOT YET DONE WITH US; and,
 "notwithstanding your pride, power,
 "and insolence, mind, I tell you, that
 "this very page that I am now writing
 "will be read and admired, when *you*
 "*three shall be rotten and forgotten,*
 "or, at any rate, remembered only by
 "being lashed in that page and in other
 "pages from the same pen."

There let *them* lie and rot, those three
 swallows of public money, and mortal
 enemies of freedom; let Liverpool *now*
 "pursue the *stern path of duty*"; let
 HUSKISSON *now* defend corn-bills and
 vote, and speak against jacobins; let
 CANNING crack his jokes on the "*revered*
 and *ruptured* Ogden"; let "the House
 cheer him long and loudly"; and let us
 take a look at what the ministerial pa-
 pers are putting forth relative to the
disposition of the Government with re-
gard to war; which, as I said before,
 is *a most important matter*; and, my
 friends, it is of peculiar importance to
 you and me, because we shall now find
 that which was called my *mad* predic-
 tion, completely fulfilled. The predic-
 tion had been put forth in 1814; often
 repeated, and made more memorable
 by the positive manner of it in 1822.
 Since that time there have been, 1. *The*
invasion of Spain by the Bourbons; 2.
The invasion and half-subjugation of
Turkey by Russia; 3. *The cession of*
the Floridas to the United States; 4.
The settlement of part of Mexico by the
United States; and 5. *The conquest of*
part of Africa by the French. Here
 were five distinct, legitimate, *grounds*
of war. Five things, neither of which
 England would, at any former period,
 have suffered to take place, any more
 than she would have suffered the French
 to take possession of the Isle of Wight.
 Therefore, with reference to all and
 each of these, I have constantly *ap-*
pealed to my prediction. But what shall
 we say *now*, when *another revolution*
has taken place in France; when Bel-

gium has hurled from his throne the
 king *that England placed there for her*
own protection, and to support whom
 on that throne *she was bound by treaty*;
 what shall we say *now*, when she not
 only does *not stir*, but when she ap-
 pears as if stone-dead? We thank God,
 indeed, that she does not stir; that she
 stands looking on, as if she were made
 of marble; that she is become the very
 "monument of *Patience* smiling at
Grief": we rejoice at this, in the pre-
 sent instance: but it is of vast import-
 ance that we ascertain *the cause*; aye,
 and that we make *that cause* to be
 clearly seen by *the people* and by the
honest statesmen in *France and in Bel-*
gium, who must wonder what in all the
 world it is that can have made the great
 big British "Empire," which has (*at*
an expense to the people of a million of
pounds sterling) an "*Imperial bushel*"
 and an "*Imperial yard*," the capacity
 and length of which are to be regulated
 by "the vibrations of an *Imperial pen-*
dulum, in a heat of sixty-two degrees
 "of Farenheit's thermometer"; O Lord!
 I shall lose my breath, and my cheek
 burns with indignation as I write; but
 these French and Belgians must won-
 der what in all the world it is, that can
 have made the "great big British Em-
 pire," so *gentle*, so *tame*, so *cold* all at
 once, as to suffer revolution and repub-
 licanism to rage round her, and to seem
 hardly to observe what is passing! It
 is necessary that they be *made fully ac-*
quainted with this cause, to disguise
 which from them so much pains has
 been taken by our Government and
 press, and which pains are now taken
 too by the *Talleyrand-Ministry and*
press of France, which, as you will see
 by and by, make *common cause with*
our pretty system. They will be foiled
 in this very soon; but in order to effect
 this, we must make *the people of France*
 see the *true cause* of this *gentleness* of
 the great big British Empire, which
 has an *army of a hundred thousand men*
 and a *fleet of thirty ships of the line in*
commission; and which has more admi-
 rals and generals than the whole of the
 rest of the world!

But you will say, "How can the
 "people of France and of Belgium be
 "ignorant of this cause, since we know

"it so well, and since the Register *must* have got to *Paris*, at any rate?" My friends, if I were to state to you, in detail, all the schemes, all the regulations, all the means, put in practice by the Bourbons and by the tax-eaters in this country, *to prevent the Register getting into France*, you would be astonished. So completely had they shut it out, that while I was, and for many years had been, famous as a *grammarian* and an *historian*, hardly a man at Paris, even amongst literary men, knew, *two months ago, that I had ever written on politics!* But I shall come to this matter again by and by. And now, let me not explain the *cause* above-mentioned to you, because you know it well; but let me lay before you what the *ministerial papers* say, with regard to the disposition of our Government *relative to war*. These papers have been wriggling and twisting about for a good while. When the brave people of Paris had put down the tyranny and drove away the tyrant, these papers assumed an air of *half-threats*. They then drew in their horns. The feelers went to Paris; they there found *bankers* and *loan-jobbers* in power; that was *just the thing*; legitimacy was tossed to the devil *when the funds were at stake*. TALLEYRAND was sent over; the marriage with the old Bourbons was dissolved, and another contracted with the new Bourbons. But as the devil of the boroughmongers would have it, the *Belgians* broke loose! It was hoped that *they*, poor fellows, would soon be crushed *if the French did not go to their aid*; and the base loan-jobbers of Paris laid the cold hand upon the gallant French people, and left the Belgians, who had always been so faithful to France, *to be crushed by the Dutch King and his army*; and here was TALLEYRAND in England, to make, of course, *a merit*, on the part of the new *legitimate* Bourbon, of having left the poor Belgians *to be subdued*, and, of course, *punished*.

Thank God and the brave men of Brussels, the loan-jobbing vagabonds, on both sides of the water, were deceived: the Belgians beat the Dutch King and his army! Drove them out of their fine and fertile country; did not

do the thing by halves; declared themselves *independent*; and left the Dutch, if they chose to do it, *to pay the interest of that Debt* which had been fixed upon the Belgians by force, along with the Dutch King! Judge you, my friends, of the feelings of the amiable old priest-bishop-citizen-prince Talleyrand when he heard of these things! Well, but the great big "British *Empire*," with the "*Imperial*" bushel and yard in its *Statute Book*; did it not stir now, though bound by treaty to preserve Belgium to the Dutch King? Did it not stir even to preserve the "*field of Waterloo*" and the mound and the lion and the "*Hanoverian column*," and those fortresses which the "*Prince of Waterloo*" was to go and inspect every year, and in the country, too, where the Prince had an estate of 2,000*l.* a year as a reward for his services to the Dutch King in taking Belgium from the French: the devil! what! did England *not stir*, in this case, *though this Prince himself was at the head of her Government!* She did not! What! did this Prince, who, when at Paris in 1815, demanded, *on the part of the Dutch King*, the *Belgian pictures* to be taken out of the museums at Paris (see his note on the subject, in the instances of *bad writing* at the end of my *English Grammar*, last edition); did this Prince suffer these Belgians to take the whole country, *pictures and all*, from the Dutch King, and *not call upon England to stir!* Yes, by all that's wonderful, he did! and now let us hear what the *Courier*, the great ministerial newspaper, said upon the subject, last Saturday, the 9th instant. I am about to solicit your attention to *two* passages in this paper; the first on the subject of the rare scheme for making *a son of the Dutch King king of Belgium!* The second on the *pacific disposition of our Government!* The first is as follows: "We must, of course, expect that some opposition will be offered to this or any other reasonable scheme for the pacification of the Netherlands, by the violent men who are now exercising authority in Belgium; but the interests of so many influential persons are concerned in taking a proper

"view of the subject, that *we do not despair* of a speedy and satisfactory conclusion. M. de POTTER appears to have *decided for a republican* form of Government, probably because it would afford him an opportunity of *taking a leading part in it*; but the *turbulent character* of the Belgians would, we think, have too much development under a republic, which, at the best, is fitted only for a new, a very quietly-disposed people. A constitutional monarchy would be much better for them, and much more agreeable to their neighbours. That such may be the result is, we are sure, the wish of the well-disposed part of the nation, and to the Prince of Orange the crown will probably be offered. This Prince is said to have a strong predilection for the Belgians, and the prospect of a resident sovereign and of a perpetual court will conciliate the Belgians and flatter their vanity."

There is a beast for you! The man who writes for the *Courier*, is, I am told, a SCOTCHMAN, called DR. GALT, who was the emigration agent of our pretty fellows in that terrestrial paradise, *Canada*; and I never yet knew a Scotchman who wrote upon politics (with the exception of Dr. Black) who was ever right in any one instance. But as to the matter before us, only think of the monstrous fool imagining, that the brave and resolute and sensible Belgians, after driving away this prince (foh! prince, indeed!) and his plundering and ravishing myrmidons, are to be wheedled to take him for a king! and that, too, without rhyme or reason! Oh! but this fellow "is said to have a strong predilection for the Belgians." A cannibal, when brought into a court in America, to give evidence against a man who was on trial for his life, was asked whether he had any ground of dislike to the prisoner; he answered "No, no, me like him too well; me eat him, you let me, when he be hang." This was, indeed, a very "strong predilection," and of about the same sort as that of this "prince" for the Belgians! Not that he would literally eat their bodies; but that his "predilection" is for their property, for their earnings,

for their substance, extorted from them in taxes; that this is the ground of his predilection, who is beast enough to doubt?

But, mark the soft tone of the Scotchman! "We do not despair." You may, then, kilt-man; for the Belgians are not such beasts as to make another noose to put their heads into, after having snapped that which had nearly choked them before. M. de POTTER wants a republic "that he may take a leading part in it." And suppose that; why not? You are a base Scotchman for imputing such a motive to him to which he is no more fairly liable than Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, or (a far greater man than either of them) Paine, would have been; but be it so, and what then? His ambition may be quite compatible with the good of his country. He is acting wisely now, at any rate; and the English people have not failed to observe the vast superiority of the proceedings of the Belgian provisional government over those of the bankers and loan-jobbers of Paris.

"The turbulent character of the Belgians would, we think, have too much development under a republic." GALT, who made you a doctor? I, in virtue of my office as "Monarch of the Press," gave a title to your countryman of the *Morning Chronicle*; but who the devil made you a doctor! "Too much development"! Oh! thou conceited ass! But as to the fact, where is there on this earth a people more fit for life under a republic than the Belgians? Plain in their manners, simple in their dress, industrious, sober, patient of toil, steady in their purposes, proverbially pious; inhabiting a rich soil, frugal in their living, excellent husbandmen, cleanly and economical in their houses; upright in their dealings, and above all, obstinately brave and persevering. And yet, they are unfit for a republic, and it would be "much better for them to have a constitutional monarchy"! Like ours, of course! There was a nursery maid used to say to one of my children: "You'd better sit down, my dear, and not gallop about the room so." "No, Diney," said the child, "I bette' not"; laying a very heavy emphasis upon the word NOT. And thus the Belgians

would answer, if they were to read the exhortations of this man with the kilt and philibeg. How the Belgians would stare, if they were to see this politician in petticoats, who takes upon him to recommend to them a "*perpetual court*" as a thing calculated to "*flatter their vanity*"! Faith, they have had too much of an *occasional court* to want a "*perpetual*" one. They have read of the *cheap* government in America; and so has all the world; and, in short, the industrious part of mankind are now *resolved not to toil any longer for the sole benefit of lazy and rapacious and insolent aristocracy.*

We now come to the second extract, which may be called "*the tears of the place-hunting Scotch,*" who live on taxes and thrive on tyranny in all parts of the world. This Scotchman had, it seems, published some days before, an article, that induced *another Scotchman* to fear, that our pretty men at Whitehall *had some notion of war*: whereupon that other Scotchman expressed his alarm, and bade his readers to look out for the danger to *their money*. Seeing this, our COURIER Scotchman comes out with the following *pacific assurances*; which I beseech *you*, my friends, to read with the *greatest attention*. It is the COURIER, mind you, that speaks; and that paper is *notoriously the organ of the people in office*. The words are, therefore, of the greatest importance: they were published in the COURIER of the 9th instant; and I verily believe they were written, not by Galt, but at *Whitehall*. Now read them; pay particular attention to those in *italics*.

"The Scotsman of Wednesday, after quoting from the *Courier* an article on the Netherlands, says:

"It seems to follow from the *Courier's* words on Thursday last, if faith may be put in them, that the *question of interference has been considered, and that it has not, at all events, been decided in the negative*. The subject sinks every other into absolute insignificance; and this simple announcement ought in our opinion to be a signal to every man in the country *who values his money, his property, his freedom, or security, to raise his voice against a measure which would strike at them all, and entail unnumbered evils on the country.*"

"The contradiction which we gave on Saturday last to the report that

"the British Cabinet had resolved to interfere in the quarrel, and which the *Scotsman*, in the spirit of fairness which characterises that journal, has copied, ought, we think, to have been sufficient to remove any alarm which had been created. We regret that *inadvertency* on our part, or misconception by our contemporary, should have led to a belief that there was a disposition in the Cabinet to plunge this country in a war, for the purpose of preserving the integrity of a foreign king's dominions. We merely stated that the question was one of difficulty, and that other interests than those of the King of the Netherlands were involved in it; but we stated also, in the most positive manner, that there was a determination in the proper quarter *not to interfere*, unless the interest and honour of Great Britain should demand interference, and new circumstances should arise to compel the Government of this country to adopt a course against which they have, in principle and practice, protested. To this we added, *that the necessity of intervention was not apparent*; and yet we are charged with having justified by our words the fear which has been expressed, that intervention was contemplated. It will sometimes happen that, in the race against time, which is one of the most important characteristics of a daily newspaper, words may be used which the writer would have discarded for others of less ambiguity, if time had permitted reflection; it is hardly fair, therefore, to bind the editor of a newspaper by a random word. The spirit of an article, and the general context, should rather be looked to. In the present case, however, we do not think we have left our meaning doubtful even as to words. We stated that there would be no interference unless new circumstances should arise, and the interests and honour of this country should render intervention absolutely necessary, constantly observing also that *nothing had transpired to show the necessity of our meddling hostilely in the quarrel between Holland and Belgium*. This, [and the known disin-

"*clination for war by the Duke of Wellington, a disinclination founded upon a thorough knowledge of its horrors, ought to have made the public easy on the subject. To what has been said we have only to add, that nothing has since occurred to render probable such an intervention as would involve us in war, but much to make it most improbable. There was but one truly difficult point, which the sincerity of the French Government has removed; and we may now, we trust, congratulate the country on the prospect of undisturbed peace in our foreign policy, and the realization of the important improvements in our domestic policy, which the good sense and patriotism of the Premier and his zealous colleague in the cause of gradual and rational reform, Sir Robert Peel, have suggested and may yet suggest. It would be absurd to say that nothing can ever arise to render war an act of necessity or duty; but it is still more absurd to suppose that every little storm abroad is to affect this country. Our hope, our belief, is that peace will be maintained, for the present generation at least, whatever may happen to posterity.*"

All the remark is unnecessary; except, first, that every one in London must know, that this came directly from Whitehall; and second, that the cause of publishing such an article was, and could be, no other than the necessity of doing some thing to stop, if possible, the drain upon the bank for gold! There is the tender part: there is the real cause of the pacific disposition of the English Government: there is the source of safety to the French and Belgic people; and there is the sure and certain source of parliamentary reform: it is the figure of eight and eight noughts (800,000,000! avault, hideous sight!) that have produced in the Prince of Waterloo and the Marquis of Douro, and God knows what besides, "a disinclination for war": "Paper-money" says Mr. PAINE, whom the English aristocracy and parsons burnt in effigy; "paper-money is strength in the beginning and weakness in the end."

People of France, leaders of Belgium,

people of England, read this paper; think well on its contents; and you will feel your hearts bound at the thought, that a proud, rapacious and insolent aristocracy, abetted by a not less rapacious and insolent band of Jews and loan-jobbers, now discovers its fears, after ages upon ages of rapacity, insolence and cruelty.

WM. COBBETT.

I INSERT here a *French translation* of the FIRST LETTER to Talleyrand; for this is now to be called the *first*. I shall not, in future, publish these in French in the Register: they occupy too much room; and the other way will be more effectual. But I am uncommonly anxious that *this* letter, this first broadside on the old priest-bishop-citizen-prince should have every chance of being read in France, and in Belgium; and therefore, this time I insert it in French in the Register. It is published separately, and sold at my shop at Bolt-court, for 2d., and 25 for 3s., and 100 for 10s. The employés, who have now the press of Paris in their hands, and who are just as corrupt as the people of the *Old Times*, will not republish them. But they will get in plenty to Paris in this cheap way. I had 100 copies bought last Monday morning, by a gentleman who was going to Paris; so that that candle is not under a bushel, at any rate. A very good way is to leave one or two at each inn along the road from Calais or Boulogne, to Paris. At Paris means will be found of getting these little *luminères* to other towns; and by-and-by, they will be reprinted regularly at Paris. The next letter to Talleyrand will appear next week, and will also be published separately in French for 2d. The *Journal des Débats* shall find, that the London press will soon be heard in France in spite of the bankers and loan-jobbers. It shall find, that *we*, at any rate, are not to be duped by a chamber with a banker at the head of it. N. B. The first Letter to Talleyrand (for sowing in France) may be had, in any number, at any time for ten or fifteen days to come. If I could reach these fellows across the Atlantic, the devil's in it if I can't reach those across the channel!

LETTRE I.

À

TALLEYRAND PERIGORD,

Jadis Prêtre, Evêque et Laïque ; jadis Législateur Républicain et Citoyen-Ministre sous la République ; Prince-Ministre sous Napoléon, sous les deux Bourbons, Louis et Charles, et sous le Drapeau Blanc ; aujourd'hui Prince, Envoyé Extraordinaire du "Citoyen-Roi," d'un "Peuple Souverain," qui arbore le Drapeau Tricolore.

Kensington, le 5 Octobre, 1830.

TALLEYRAND,

LORSQUE l'histoire rapportera les causes de la chute des deux systèmes d'emprunt qui existent aujourd'hui en France et en Angleterre ; lorsque nous aurons à parler de ces deux vils systèmes comme de choses qui *ont subsisté* ; lorsque nos enfants, par respect filial, contiendront leur indignation de ce que leur pères, constituant deux grandes nations, se sont soumis, pendant nombre d'années, à l'influence de deux bandes de brocanteurs d'emprunts, d'agioteurs et de juifs, à la volonté desquels ils ont mis de côté la justice, la liberté, et la réputation comme des choses de peu de valeur ; lorsque nos fils rougiront de notre conduite et exprimeront leur surprise de ce qu'une nation, comme la nation anglaise, qui, pendant un long espace de temps, refusa de se soumettre à la tyrannie ; une nation dont les lois respiraient à chaque ligne la liberté que ses enfants avaient sucé avec le lait de leur mère ; une nation dont la haine pour le pouvoir arbitraire est retracée dans l'histoire de chaque scène de ses nombreuses dissensions civiles ; et qu'une nation, comme la nation française qui, d'un seul effort, a rompu les chaînes que l'astuce et la cruauté réunies lui avaient imposées, pendant douze siècles, et fondu tout-à-coup sur les despotes qui s'étaient coalisés pour l'enchaîner de nouveau ; une nation qui, par des actes d'une valeur inouïe, à éclipsé tout ce que l'histoire a rapporté d'étonnant, à subjugué tous ces despotes, et les a forcés à ramper devant elle ; lorsque, Talleyrand, nos enfants penseront à ces choses

et exprimeront leur étonnement de ce qu'une nation, comme la nation française, s'est soumise, en 1830, à voir les employés des droits réunis pénétrer, de nuit et de jour, dans leurs domiciles, les forcer à payer un impôt sur les vins produits par leurs champs, compter les feuilles de leurs plantes à tabac, s'abstenant soigneusement d'en soustraire une seule, crainte de châtement ; lorsqu'ils seront étonnés de voir les hommes qui combattirent à Jena, à Austerlitz, à Arcole, qui marchèrent sur Rome, sur Amsterdam, sur Berlin, Naples et Vienne, et à l'approche desquels des forteresses, jusqu'alors réputées imprenables, ouvrirent, leurs portes, par centaines ; lorsqu'ils exprimeront leur étonnement de ce que, après tous ces exploits, ces mêmes hommes se sont soumis à payer des droits de patente, pour exercer leur profession, ne voyager dans leur propre pays sans être muni d'un passeport, qu'ils se sont soumis à des lois faites sans leur consentement et, en grande partie, par des hommes qui prétendent à un droit héréditaire de faire des lois ; lorsqu'ils exprimeront leur étonnement de tous ces faits, et seront encore plus étonnés de voir que cette brave nation après s'être soulevée pour la seconde fois, et brisé, pour la seconde fois, les chaînes qu'on lui avait insensiblement passées autour de chaque membre, s'arrêter tout-à-coup, au milieu de ses glorieux efforts, et avant d'avoir entièrement rompu ses chaînes, sembler craindre avoir trop fait, ou plutôt d'avoir fait quelque chose de mal ; lorsque nos fils exprimeront leur étonnement de toutes ces choses, et surtout de la manière dont s'est terminé cet événement si étrange et si humiliant pour la France ; alors ces mêmes fils, portant leurs regards sur cette page-ci et sur mes lettres, y verront les détails que j'y donne avec autant de hardiesse que de franchise, et se rendront compte des vraies causes de ces événements, en apparence si étonnants, et avant d'arriver à la fin de cette même page, ils apprendront pourquoi ces mêmes événements ont manqué de produire leur effet, et pourquoi au lieu de la sécurité que les auteurs avaient espéré d'y trouver, ils ont porté la destruction parmi eux.

Ainsi vous voyez, Talleyrand, que j'ai

entrepris un vaste sujet. Vous savez probablement, mais que vous le sachiez ou que vous ne le sachiez pas, le fait est que j'ai renversé, à moi seul, plus de projets de fourberie et d'oppression qu'aucun homme qui ait jamais existé, et que je possède cette qualité pour laquelle mes compatriotes sont fameux, c'est-à-dire que je poursuis, avec autant de constance que d'opiniâtreté, tout ce que j'ai résolu d'entreprendre. Sans doute vous êtes pour le moment à l'abri de mes atteintes; je n'ai physiquement aucun pouvoir de vous nuire; vous êtes entouré et choyé par ceux qui ont à leurs ordres une armée de cent mille hommes sur pied, et qui arrachent soixante millions de taxes par an de ce peuple jadis si neureux et si bien nourri, mais qui se trouve aujourd'hui plongé dans la misère, couvert de haillons, et réduit à vivre de pommes de terre. Au surplus, je vous atteindrai par degrés. Ce ne sera, il est vrai, que de l'eau qui tombera sur du marbre, mais elle finira par faire impression. Vous avez aussi de votre côté les RICHES de la France; ceux dont le dieu est préservé dans un sac ou dans un porte-feuille, et auxquels il importe peu quel soit le *prêtre*, pourvu que ses efforts tendent à conserver leur dieu. Mon correspondant de Paris me mande que quelques-uns d'entre eux en lisant mon TABLEAU DE L'ANGLETERRE, No. VII., qui se trouvait, en Français et en Anglais, dans le Régistre du 25 Septembre dernier, mon correspondant, dis-je, me mande que quelques Français de la classe "comme il faut," en lisant ledit article, adressé aux *braves Parisiens*, touchant votre nomination, et exprimant franchement mon opinion sur les circonstances extraordinaires qui se rattachaient au choix d'un nouveau roi, autre Bourbon, au voyage, à la liste civile, et à la marche lente de Charles; "ces *gens comme il faut*, c'est-à-dire "ces gens qui vivent sans rien faire, "dit mon correspondant, lèveront les "épaules, lorsqu'ils arriveront à cette "partie de l'adresse qui parle du nouveau roi. Ils loueront beaucoup ce "que vous dites du prêtre-évêque-citoyen-prince; mais cette partie où "vous semblez croire que Louis-Philippe paraît avoir été choisi pour "tenir la place chaude pour Charles,

"ou ses héritiers, était beaucoup trop "chaude pour eux."

Ainsi vous voyez, vieux prêtre-évêque, que je ne me dissimule nullement les obstacles que j'ai à surmonter; mais je les surmonterai. Je sais aussi que vous avez à vos ordres la majeure partie des journalistes de Paris, bien qu'ils aient honte de l'avouer. Nous, Anglais, nous savons bien que notre presse est corrompue; ceux d'entre nous qui sont initiés dans cette affaire, savent bien que les propriétaires de la plupart des journaux quotidiens jouissent, généralement parlant, d'un monopole produit par l'énormité du droit de timbre; nous savons bien que ces propriétaires obtiennent parfois du gouvernement des places et des gratifications; mais cela se fait d'une manière si adroite que la masse du peuple ne s'en aperçoit point. Le gouvernement du "citoyen-roi," faute d'expérience, s'est montré moins astucieux; il a corrompu ouvertement la presse de Paris, s'il faut en croire leurs journaux; il a donné, sans détour et en nommant tout bonnement les individus, des places et des émoluments, aux rédacteurs de plusieurs journaux, et quelques-uns d'entre eux se sont plaints de ce qu'ils n'avaient pas eu leur part. Ah Talleyrand! Ah Baron Louis! Ah Louis-Philippe premier! Ce coup de politique a été profond sans doute, mais il ne réussira pas, malgré le jargon prosaïque de Monsieur "le bon citoyen Guisot."

Je sais donc que j'ai contre moi.

1. Les deux gouvernements.
2. Neuf sur dix journaux quotidiens de Londres.
3. Neuf sur dix, sinon tous les journaux de Paris.
4. Les hommes riches de la France, en général.
5. Tous les possesseurs de fonds et tous les brocanteurs d'emprunts de Paris.
6. Tous les banquiers et les grands négociants des deux pays.
7. Les *boroughmongers* d'Angleterre, et les deux Chambres de France.

Je sais bien tout ceci, et cependant, pour ce qui a rapport à la France, je m'engage à les confondre tous, et vous par dessus le marché, en dépit de tous les moyens que vous pourrez employer, à moins que vous, votre *citoyen-roi* et

son prêtre-ministre, ne parveniez à *arrêter le cours des postes d'Angleterre en France* ; et faites-le, si vous osez ! Je n'ignore pas qu'une partie de vos attributions est de savoir au juste quelles sont les personnes qui vont d'Angleterre en France, et de prendre des mesures en conséquence. Talleyrand, je me donnerai bien de garde d'aller en France, tant que vous serez le représentant de votre citoyen-roi dans ce pays-ci. Je ne quitterai jamais l'Angleterre pour aller dans quelque pays que ce puisse être dont vous seriez le représentant. Je n'ai jamais vu Paris ; je désire le voir ; mais tant que vous serez le représentant de ceux qui gouvernent la France, ils n'auront certainement pas ma carcasse en leur pouvoir.

Je sais fort bien que les journalistes de Paris ne publieront pas ce que j'écris ; je sais, par exemple, qu'ils ne publieront pas cette lettre-ci. Je les ai mis à l'épreuve par ma lettre No. VII, ci-dessus mentionnée, du *Tableau d'Angleterre*. Ils ont publié tout ce qui avait rapport à votre histoire ; mais lorsque j'en suis venu à dire que le citoyen-roi tenait la place *chaude* pour Charles ou ses héritiers, ils ont laissé cette partie en blanc ; oui, ils l'ont laissée en blanc. Le citoyen-roi Bourbon leur avait donné l'argent du public, en leur donnant des places, et c'eût bien été le diable s'ils avaient publié une attaque contre le nouveau roi-Bourbon, sous lequel, et au plaisir duquel ils occupent des places. C'était là la pierre de touche. Je l'avais écrit dans ce dessein, et cela m'a parfaitement réussi. Eh, bien ! que me reste-t-il à faire ? Quel est mon but en publiant cette lettre, en Français en Angleterre ? Je vous le dirai, Talleyrand. J'ai les moyens maintenant de faire parvenir mon journal à *Boulogne*, à *Calais* et à *Dieppe*, bientôt même à *Paris*, et je vous déclare, Talleyrand-Perigord, prêtre-évêque-citoyen-prince, que cette lettre même sera lue, oui sera lue, dans chaque ville considérable de la France ; et cela malgré vous, malgré le roi, et malgré les *faiseurs de rois* de France.

Dans mes lettres subséquentes, j'aurai à vous entretenir de divers objets. J'aurai à vous demander si en effet vous avez la folie de croire que le peuple

français continuera à souffrir que les rats de cave viennent dans leurs maisons et dans leurs champs leur arracher de l'argent pour payer l'intérêt d'une dette contractée à l'effet de payer des étrangers pour leur avoir rendu les Bourbons, bon gré, mal gré, et pour avoir saccagé les musées de Paris ? J'aurai à vous demander de quel droit les chambres se sont permis d'élire un nouveau roi, ou un roi quelconque pour le peuple français. J'aurai à vous questionner sur d'autres sujets ; mais, pour le moment, je me contenterai de vous offrir mes félicitations sur l'harmonie heureuse qui, si j'en dois croire les journaux, règne entre vous et vos vieux amis, les ministres anglais ! Ce serait grand dommage de troubler cette harmonie ; je n'en ai aucune envie ; et je sais que ce que je vais faire n'y tendra nullement ; mais comme tous les journaux de Paris ont affirmé qu'on vous avait envoyé ici "*à la réquête du gouvernement anglais*," il serait à propos, ce me semble, d'approfondir un peu la cause probable de cette réquête ; car, ainsi que nous finirons par le voir, cet objet est d'une bien haute importance pour les deux pays. En effet, si vous vous étiez montré jadis admirateur de ce gouvernement-ci, il aurait eu quelque raison de désirer de vous avoir près de lui ; mais il n'y aurait pas de raison pour que le roi-citoyen vous y envoyât. Vous l'avez tourné en *ridicule* ; on dit même que vous l'avez diffamé par des *libelles*. Voyons, sans autre préambule, ce que vous avez dit sur ce gouvernement *chatouilleux*, en 1804 et 1805. C'est encore le même gouvernement, Talleyrand ! Il a les mêmes bourgs dans sa manche : c'est toujours la même *jolie* chose que Cottu et Guizot et Dupin vantent ; il n'a changé ni de caractère ni de conduite ; *il est absolument ce qu'il était* en 1804 et 1805. Je vous prie donc, ou plutôt je prie le peuple anglais et le peuple français de lire avec une attention toute particulière ce que vous dites à cette époque de ce même gouvernement. Le voici consigné dans les documents authentiques qui suivent, signés de votre main et publiés dans tous les pays civilisés de la terre. Lisez vous-même ces documents, Talleyrand, lisez-les à *DRAKE* et à *SMITH*, auxquels, par paren-

thèse, nous payons des pensions ; lisez-les ensemble, et riez-en à votre aise. Riez de la simplicité du *peuple-souverain*, riez-en votre soûl, tandis que vous le pouvez ; car je suis bien convaincu que vous ne rirez pas long-temps.

“ *Circulaire du Ministre des relations extérieures de France aux Ministres des puissances étrangères résidant à Paris ; signée C. M. Talleyrand, et datée de Paris, le 24 Mars, 1804.*

“ Le premier Consul m'a ordonné d'adresser à votre Excellence copie du rapport qui lui a été présenté par le Grand-Juge sur la conspiration incidentelle formée en France par Mr. Drake, Ministre de Sa Majesté Britannique près la cour de Munich, laquelle, quant à l'objet et à la date, se trouvait en rapport avec l'infâme complot soumis dans ce moment au jugement des tribunaux. Les originaux seront envoyés sur-le-champ par le premier Consul à S. A. S. l'Electeur de Bavière. Une telle prostitution du poste le plus honorable dont un homme puisse être revêtu, est sans exemple dans l'histoire des nations civilisées. L'Europe sera aussi étonnée qu'affligée d'un crime que le gouvernement le plus pervers n'osa jamais tenter jusqu'à ce jour. Le premier Consul connaît trop bien les sentiments et les bonnes qualités qui distinguent les membres du corps diplomatique, accrédités près de lui, pour ne pas être convaincu qu'ils verront avec un chagrin profond une profanation du caractère sacré d'ambassadeur, methamorphosé d'une manière si odieuse en une agence de complots, de stratagèmes et de corruption.

“ *Extrait d'une note, transmise par le ministre des relations extérieures de France au Chargé d'affaires de l'empire russe, datée de Paris, le 16 Mai, 1804, et signée Ch. M. Talleyrand.*

“ La circonstance contre laquelle il s'élève un cri général est d'une nature bien différente. Par le traité de Lunéville, l'Allemagne et la France s'étaient réciproquement engagées à ne point donner asile à aucun de ces hommes capables de troubler leur

tranquillité respective. D'après ce traité, on ne souffrait point dans l'Empire germanique les émigrés qui résidaient à Bâle, à Fribourg, à Dresde, &c., cette circonstance démontre l'inconvenance réelle de la conduite de la Russie. La France demande qu'elle éloigne les émigrés qui étaient à son service à l'époque où les deux pays étaient en guerre, des pays où ils ne se sont signalés que par leurs intrigues. La Russie, au contraire, persiste à les y maintenir, et la remontrance qu'elle fait maintenant conduit à cette question. Si, à l'époque où l'Angleterre complota l'assassinat de Paul I. (admettant qu'on eût reçu avis que les fauteurs du complot étaient à une lieue de distance de la frontière) ne se serait-on pas donné beaucoup de mouvement pour les arrêter ? Le premier consul espère que sa Majesté Impériale, dont l'excellent esprit et le noble caractère sont si connus, s'apercevra tôt ou tard qu'il y a des hommes qui profitent de tous les moyens pour susciter des ennemis à la France, qui cherchent à faire une diversion, et à rallumer le flambeau de la guerre qui ne peut être avantageuse qu'à l'Angleterre.

DOCUMENT OFFICIEL.

CIRCULAIRE DE FRANCE. “ *Circulaire de M. de Talleyrand, Ministre des affaires étrangères de France à tous les Agents de S. M. l'Empereur des Français, datée d'Arc-la-Chapelle, le 5 Septembre 1804.*

“ Vous avez dû, Monsieur, remarquer et savoir, d'après mes instructions à l'époque de la communication de la note de Lord Hawkesbury aux ministres des puissances étrangères résidant à Londres, l'impression que cette manifestation des plus fortes maximes de morale politique et sociale ne pouvait manquer de produire sur l'esprit du gouvernement auprès duquel vous vous trouvez. Je crois devoir revenir sur ce sujet. En conséquence, je vous envoie une copie officielle de cette note, et vous enjoins expressément, par ordre de Sa Majesté, d'en faire le sujet d'une conférence spéciale avec le Ministère. Le projet conçu par le gouvernement anglais, depuis plus de 50 ans, de détruire insensiblement le

" système tutélaire du droit public qui
 " unit et lie toutes les nations civilisées,
 " se développe avec une effrayante rapi-
 " dité. Les autres gouvernements tar-
 " deront-ils à s'opposer à une telle en-
 " treprise jusqu'à ce qu'il n'existe de
 " lien moral pour conserver leurs
 " droits, pour garantir leurs engage-
 " ments et protéger leurs intérêts ?
 " Les puissances continentales ont
 " vu avec quelle audace ce gouverne-
 " ment s'est joué de la foi des serments,
 " et a violé des traités solennels, avant
 " même qu'ils fussent mis à exécution.
 " Les nations maritimes éprouvent tous
 " les jours sa tyrannie. Il n'y a point
 " de principe théorique de navigation,
 " point de convention écrite qu'il n'ait
 " violé avec audace sur tous les rivages
 " et dans toutes les mers. Les états
 " neutres savent que, même en usant
 " avec la plus grande circonspection
 " des droits qui leur restent, ils s'ex-
 " posent à être insultés, pillés, ex-
 " terminés. Ces états, enfin, qui ont
 " le malheur d'être en guerre, ne
 " peuvent plus compter sur aucun
 " principe réciproque de modération et
 " de justice. Tous les liens qui exis-
 " tent entre eux et les puissances neutres
 " sont rompus. Une simple proclama-
 " tion a suffi pour interdire l'approche
 " des côtes, l'entrée des ports et des îles,
 " quoique éloignés de ses escadres de
 " plus de deux cents lieues. Ainsi le
 " gouvernement anglais a jusqu'ici op-
 " posé à chaque puissance, d'après sa
 " position particulière, une maxime in-
 " jurieuse à son honneur et subversive
 " de tous ses droits. Il les attaque au-
 " jourd'hui toutes à la fois ; et, pour
 " atteindre plus sûrement son but, il
 " dirige ses coups contre la moralité
 " même, et, si je puis ainsi m'exprimer,
 " contre la religion du droit public.
 " Dans tous les temps et dans tous les
 " pays, on a respecté le caractère des
 " agents diplomatiques. Ministres de
 " paix, organes de conciliation, leur
 " présence est un présage de sagesse, de
 " justice et de bonheur. Ils ne parlent,
 " ils n'agissent que pour terminer ou
 " prévenir ces funestes différends qui di-
 " visent les princes et dégradent les
 " peuples par les passions, les meurtres,
 " et toutes les horreurs qui sont les
 " avant-coureurs de la guerre. Tel est

" le but d'un agent diplomatique ; et
 " l'on doit dire que c'est à l'observation
 " des devoirs que ses fonctions lui im-
 " posent, et au caractère, généralement
 " respectable, des hommes qui exercent
 " ce ministère sacré en Europe, qu'elle
 " doit la gloire et le bonheur dont elle
 " jouit ; mais ces heureux effets excitent
 " la jalouse ambition du seul gouverne-
 " ment qui se croit intéressé à la ruine,
 " à la honte et à la servitude des autres
 " états. Il voudrait que les agents di-
 " plomatiques fussent des instigateurs
 " de complots, des agents de troubles,
 " des directeurs et des régulateurs de
 " machinations, de vils espions, de hon-
 " teux corrupteurs. Il leur ordonne de
 " fomenter la sédition, de provoquer et
 " de payer l'assassinat, et il prétend faire
 " jouir cet infâme ministère du respect et
 " de l'inviolabilité qui appartiennent
 " aux médiateurs des rois et aux pacifi-
 " cateurs des nations. Les agents diplo-
 " matiques, dit Lord Hawkesbury, ne
 " doivent pas conspirer contre les lois du
 " pays où ils résident ; mais ils ne sont
 " point soumis aux mêmes obligations à
 " l'égard des états près desquels ils ne
 " sont pas accrédités. Admirables res-
 " trictions ! L'Europe fourmillera de
 " conspirateurs, et les défenseurs du droit
 " des nations n'auront pas le droit de se
 " plaindre ! Il y aura toujours quelque
 " distance locale entre le chef et les com-
 " plices. Les ministres de Lord Hawkes-
 " bury payeront le prix des crimes commis
 " en leur nom ; mais ils seront assez pru-
 " dents pour respecter la morale pu-
 " blique, en ne devenant pas à la fois
 " instigateurs et témoins. De telles
 " maximes sont le comble de l'audace
 " et de l'hypocrisie. Jamais on ne se
 " joua avec plus d'effronterie de l'opi-
 " nion des cabinets et de la conscience
 " des peuples. S. M. l'Empereur juge
 " qu'il est temps d'arrêter ce déborda-
 " ment de principes subversifs de toute
 " société "

Voilà, Talleyrand ! L'authenticité de
 ces documents ne saurait être contestée.
 On ne saurait non plus révoquer en
 doute que ce ne soit là le langage
 que vous avez tenu touchant le gou-
 vernement anglais. Il s'ensuit donc de
 deux choses l'une : ou que ce gouverne-
 ment-ci chargea en effet Drake de former
 et encourager un infâme complot contre

la vie de Napoléon ; qu'il traça le plan de l'assassinat de Paul premier, empereur de Russie ; qu'il se joua de la foi des serments ; qu'il voulut que ses agents diplomatiques fussent des instigateurs de complots, des bruyons, des directeurs et des régulateurs de machinations, de vils espions, de honteux corrupteurs ; qu'il leur ordonna de fomenter la sédition, de provoquer et de payer l'assassinat, et enfin que tout CELA ÉTAIT VRAI, ou que VOUS ÉTIEZ LE PLUS GRAND CALOMNIATEUR qui eût jamais existé.

Je ne sais, et il m'importe peu de savoir de quel côté est la vérité ; mais l'une de ces deux propositions doit nécessairement être vraie. Cependant vous voilà aujourd'hui rassemblés, chers et bons amis ; eux, s'il faut en croire les journaux de Paris, impatients de vous embrasser, et vous sans doute non moins empressé de vous jeter dans leurs bras. Maintenant, chers camarades, restez enlacés dans les bras les uns des autres jusqu'à la semaine prochaine où je tâcherai de dévoiler les causes de cette heureuse réconciliation. En attendant, je suis avec les sentiments qu'un homme, tel que moi, doit avoir pour un homme, tel que vous.

G^RME. COBBETT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

FOR

THE BRAVE PARISIAN SUFFERERS.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount advertised in last Register	217	7	10
Mr. Samuel Smith	2	0	0
Mr. Jeremiah Smith, Norton, Suffolk	1	0	0
W. D. Weller	0	0	9
Ten persons in St. George's, East	0	10	0
A Buckinghamshire Tear	0	0	2
An Old Radical of H.	0	1	0
W. Rowelliff	0	10	0

Total up to 14th Oct. £221 9 9

N.B. The list, in the Register of 2nd Oct., contained 3*l*. "from Maidstone." It should have been from "the Reformers of Leeds, near Maidstone." The letter was addressed to Sir THOMAS BEEVOR, and as he had not a moment to spare, I promised to attend to the insertion in the list ; but, in the bustle of the day, I did it imperfectly, for which I beg pardon of the good men of the village of Leeds.

ANOTHER ERROR in that list was this :

"In an anonymous letter to Mr. Cobbett, 2*l*." It should have been, "From James Gudgeon, Esq., Stowmarket, Suffolk, for himself and Mr. J. A. Webb."

ANOTHER ERROR in the last Register. Mr. Samuel Smith meant his 2*l*. for the French, and we put them down to the Belgians.

This puts all to rights so far. A book will be kept open, at my shop, in Bolt-court, to receive Subscriptions for the French until Monday, 1st November inclusive, when the account will be closed, and the money sent to Paris by Sir Thomas Beevor, through such channel as he may please.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

For the Widows and Orphans of the Brave Working People of Brussels.

	£	s.	d.
One thousand one hundred and two Working Men, the money collected by Mr. Cobbett.	9	3	8
Mr. T. Breever	0	10	0
Mr. R. Rogers	0	10	6
Mrs. Potter and her daughter	0	7	6
An Enemy to the brutal Dutch troops	0	2	6
No "Orange Bovan"	0	3	0
The Waterloo Mound	0	5	0
The Waterloo Lion	0	5	0
The naked Achilles, erected by "the Ladies of England"	0	5	0
The Hanoverian Column	0	5	0
A Patlander	0	2	6
G. Maut	0	12	0
W. Rowelliff	0	10	0

Total up to 14th Oct. £ 13 1 8

As I said before, I engage that my own collections, independent of what shall be collected at my shop, shall amount to 30*l*. I am not without hope, the sum will, in the whole, amount to 100*l*. But, be it what it may, I engage to send an Ambassador with it to Brussels, at my own expense ; aye, an ambassador to represent truly the millions of England ! Those laborious millions, who sympathize in every nerve and every vein with the brave men who have shed this blood rather than continue to toil and sweat, to support in luxury a rapacious and insolent Aristocracy. Those brave people, who had always been so faithful to the French, merited the support of the French now, and, I dare say, expected it ! The French people were ready to flee to their aid ; but, alas ! the moment I saw a banker at the head of the French parliament, put there by the almost unanimous voice of

the members, I saw that, if the French did assist the Belgians, it must be without the consent, and *against the will, of the French government*. That government, that Talleyrand-government, *left the Belgians to their fate*, while the people of France were burning to be in Belgium. However, these brave people, though thus abandoned by the Funding System Government of France, did not flinch from the combat; they fought the Dutch troops, and drove the Dutch king out of their country.

And here we ought to remark on the baseness of a part of the London press, and particularly on that of the OLD TIMES paper, which is now universally called "THE BLOODY OLD TIMES," from its having uniformly advocated punishment, cruelty, proscription and blood, against all those, *in whatever country*, who were striving for freedom. This vile, this atrocious paper, which has always been the favourite tool of our bribing borough-villains, actually hunted unfortunate CASHMAN to the gallows; it applauded, and, indeed, suggested, the dungeon and gag laws of Sidmouth and Castlereagh; it urged the Bourbons, in 1814, to slaughter those who had served Napoleon; it called on our Government to strip the Museums of Paris; it justified the killing of Marshal Ney; it justified the murder of the Protestants at Nismes; it called on England *not to put up the sword*, till *James Madison was deposed*. These facts and a hundred other proofs of its *bloody-mindedness* I can, and, the moment I have room, *I will*, prove from *its own columns*; and I will also publish the names of its *proprietors* as soon as I get back to London.

For these very sufficient reasons, this infamous paper is called "*the bloody Old Times*;" and, really, it ought to be printed in *red ink*. True to its character, this bloody old Paper, not having foresight any-thing like equal to its malignity, thought, when it heard of *the march of the Dutch army to Brussels*, that the Belgians were defeated; and, always having *blood* in its eye, began to bespeak the *halters* and *axes* for those brave people whom it had the infamy to call "*a mob*." On the 28th of September, when it was reported that

the Dutch plunderers and ravishers had beaten the people of Brussels, for whom every honest English heart was bleeding, this corrupt, this dirty-blooded thing, put forth the following flagitious words:

"The *populace* or *workmen* out of employ must have been the chief actors in those sanguinary conflicts. Great disunion existed in the ranks, and paralysed the councils of the more respectable *insurgents*. The Committee of Public Safety seemed to have consulted *its own safety by flying to the French frontier*; the Regency had ceased to act from Monday the 20th instant, and the Provisional Government existed *only on paper*; the head of it, M. de Potter, being probably still in Paris. *The poor misguided citizens were thus left to fight for the redress of imaginary wrongs under leaders as ignorant of real grievances as themselves*. Such, we hope and trust, is the end of a revolt which originated in a mob, and has terminated in a massacre,—which was as mad in its conception as it was contemptible in its means of execution; and which would only excite our ridicule, if our feeling of the ridiculous were not overpowered by our horror at the needless shedding of blood—by our sympathy for the innocent sufferers, and our pity for those whom the LAW MAY CLAIM AS ITS VICTIMS, after the sword has been sheathed."

Reader, English reader, think of the baseness of the wretch who could sit in safety himself, or herself, and put this upon paper! Women, when they do engage in bloody deeds, are known to be more bloody than men. As they are more ardent in their affections, so they, when the devil has taken possession of their souls, are more ferocious. And I really do think that this bloody passage, *this justification beforehand* for the works of the Dutch king's hangmen and bowel-rippers, this handing the people over to the executioner *in sport*, must have come from the pen of some devil-possessed woman. If so, how the she-devil must have raved and tore her nasty matted hair, when she found that the "*populace*," the mere "*workmen*," the "*insurgents*," had beaten the Dutch

murderers and ravishers, and had driven them and their "royal" leaders out of the country! Leaving the *Bloody Old Times* till I have time and room for a regular basting of her, let me now address a word to the Belgians.

No. I.
TO THE BRAVE PEOPLE
OF BELGIUM.

FRIENDS, Rochester, 13th October, 1930.

BE assured that the MILLIONS OF ENGLAND applaud your glorious deeds, and fervently pray to God, that your valour and virtue may be rewarded by ages of freedom, prosperity, and happiness. Amongst these millions, I, who now address you, am one; I am collecting some mites of money to be presented to the widows and orphans of the brave men who fell at Brussels, not as the means of *relief*, for that you will provide for, but as a mark of our admiration of your conduct, and of our sympathy in your cause. But, of far greater service to you I may possibly be, by communicating to you *information* which you will never get through the channel of our *Journals*, the far greater part of which are at the command of the Government, or, which is nearly the same thing, under the influence of the all-corrupting paper-money and loan-jobbing system. Forty years of experience, ten spent in the United States of America, and thirty in England, enable me to offer you, in this important crisis, matter which I hope may be deemed worthy of your attention.

It is, in the first place, of importance for you to be *assured*, and you may be assured, that our Government will not stir hand or foot against you, in the way either of *war* or of *subsidy*; and that, therefore, "like your Belgic sires of old," you may now be *free*, and form just what government you please. The situation of our Government is this: it cannot, even now, collect taxes sufficient to pay the interest of the Debt in full, and to maintain all its establishments as they *now are*; yet, the taxes are so heavy as to produce misery the most deplorable, and discontent raging from one end of the country to the other. All the middle classes of society are calling for a *reduction of taxes*; and

such reduction must take place, or the nation will be *convulsed*. Where are, then, the means of *war*, or of *subsidies*? At this very moment the several parishes of London and its environs are combining, in order to obtain relief from the taxes with which we are already loaded. Here are a million and a half of people, now actually in motion against *the taxes*. What more is wanted to convince any man, that *new taxes* cannot be imposed; and yet how is war to be made or subsidies paid without new taxes? And, when you reflect, that war would cut off half the *trade* and *manufactures* of the country; you must see that war would plunge us into utter confusion.

But, besides this obstacle, there is, great as this is, one much greater, much more *immediate*, and much more frightful to our government; namely, the FUNDS, associated with and dependent on, the PAPER-MONEY. England is *rich*, England is *great*, England abounds in all the sources of wealth and of power. But, this same England has a *Debt* and a *paper-money*, which, if suddenly blown up, would *bring down the whole fabric of the government*, level the Aristocracy and the Hierarchy with the earth, and, in all likelihood, make a total change in the proprietorship of every possession in this kingdom; and, observe, it is *impossible* for this government to *go to war*, at this time, without causing the Debt and paper-money system to be *blown up*.

The statements and arguments to *prove the truth of this* would demand more time than I have to spare at present. The facts are notorious here; no one denies them; and, in these facts you have the explanation of the wonderful phenomenon, that this government keep quiet as a mouse, though kings are driven from their thrones, or shaken on their thrones, all around it. England is *rich*, as rich as ever in valuable things; but England has a paper-money to five times, and perhaps (including paper of all sorts), to *twenty times* the amount of her *real money*. This paper-money has drawn all property and all enjoyments into the hands of a few; destroy it all at once, and there is, instantly, a *new distribution of property*! The object, the possibility, is the most

terrific that ever engaged the contemplation of man. And, observe, *at this very moment*, its existence, the power of the government to uphold it, is a question *as to the length of time*, every man being satisfied, that it must be destroyed *first or last*.

At present bank-notes are payable, on demand, *in gold*. The gold is now leaving England in great quantities, and in all directions. If this continue, a law must be passed to put a stop to payments in gold; and then our paper-money becomes *assignats*. This would blow up the whole fabric in a short time; and every one knows, and every one says, that *a war* would instantly produce a system of *assignats*. Here, *Belgians*; here, *people of France*; here is the source of your security *against foreign attack*. Austria and Prussia and Russia cannot march without *English money*; English money is to be had only by blowing up the whole fabric of government in England, and by throwing back society into its first elements; and, therefore, *English money will not be had*.

France is in a somewhat similar situation. Why is her new government so anxious "*to preserve the peace of Europe*"? Why does it *check the Spanish patriots*? Why did it *leave you to your fate*? Why does it so largely *pay Charles X. for the massacre at Paris*? Why did it *send Talleyrand to England*? What made it so very contented to let the field of Waterloo remain in the hands of the *Dutch King*? Because it has a DEBT and FUNDS that it wishes to preserve; because the *Chambers are deeply interested* in that Debt and those Funds; because bankers and loan-mongers and stock-jobbers, all of whom thrive on the toil of the people, have, *as yet*, the power in their hands; because they know, *that war would prevent the interest of the Debt from being paid*; and because that would take from them the power of living in luxury on the sweat of the people. You see the *Banker-Deputies* of Paris becoming *bankrupts*; you will see more of that; the two governments of France and England are at work to uphold the two systems. They will fail. That of Holland is already *nearly gone*. That of France will follow; and *how long* ours will sur-

vive, no man can precisely tell. The taxes to pay the interest of the Debt, in France, cannot and will not, be paid for another year; and when they cease to be paid, the revolution will march on to a real republic, a *cheap* government, and a rich and happy people.

Here, then, brave Belgians, are *the causes of your safety*. You are free to *choose your form of government*. On that subject, I will, with great respect and deference, address you in my next Number; and, in the meanwhile, I pray God to prosper all your councils, and that the result of those councils may be to cause your happiness to make you an example to all other nations around you.

WM. COBBETT.

THE MUSICAL SCOTCH BISHOP OF ROCHESTER must remain hung up on my peg for another week.

My Son has brought from Paris THE LIFE OF LAFAYETTE, which will be published, in English, at my shop in Bolt-court, in a few days; price about 1s.

BROUGHAM must have *patience*; he and his maker, Baines, the great Liar of the North, and the humble Lord Milton, shall all *have it*, before the meeting of the Collective. What sport we shall have with Baines's member!

TRI-COLOURED HANDKERCHIEFS are sold at No. 68, Gracechurch-street.

LECTURING TOUR. Battle, Saturday, 16th. Lewes, Monday, 18th. Brighton, 19th and 20th. Chichester, 21st. Portsmouth, 22nd. Gosport, 23d. Isle of Wight, 25th. Portsmouth (or rather Portsea), 26th. SOUTHAMPTON (if possible), Wednesday, 27th. In my next I shall speak positively about Southampton. I want to get at FLEMING, if I can. Correspondents will be so good as to write to me at the Post-offices, as above, if they have any-thing to communicate *relative to my Tour*. I am now at Rochester; Wednesday, 13th.

(Advertisement.)

PROSECUTION OF THE PRESS BY THE WHIG ATTORNEY-GENERAL!

Political Letter Office, 1, Rouverie-st., Fleet-st. THE CRISIS has now arrived, which is to determine whether Englishmen shall be at liberty to discuss the measures of Government, and communicate to each other information on the present appalling state of affairs, *free from the odious Stamp Duty*.

The prosecution now commenced against the Author of the POLITICAL LETTER by an information at the suit of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, will bring this question to an issue, which cannot be doubtful, if he be but fairly supported by his fellow-countrymen.

This day, a Monitory Letter to SIR ROBERT PEEL, embodying a *comprehensive digest* of Foreign and Domestic affairs: the size of the *Examiner*. Price 4d. Sold by all Newsmen.

A friend to the freedom of the press having sent to the office a sovereign, the Editor cannot better appropriate it, than by selling one hundred copies of the POLITICAL LETTER, at one penny each, to be had at the office; or Mr. Strange's, 21, Paternoster Row.

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